

Mitchell, S. L. (1815)
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At Columbia, in Tennessee, between two and three o'clock on the morning of 16th December, the inhabitants were suddenly alarmed by a violent agitation in the earth. It was accompanied by a peculiar sound, proceeding from southwest to northeast. Immediately after the shock had ceased, a very large volume of something like smoke was discovered to rise in the quarter whence the sound appeared to come; and pursuing nearly the same course, finally settled in the north, exhibiting the appearance of a black cloud. The shock was computed to have continued from ten to fifteen minutes.